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FLOOR DEBATE

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a...that was a fabulous speech, and I think she's exactly right. Ethanol is a uniquely Nebraska product. I mean there aren't a lot of states that are as...whose economies are as dependent upon corn and production of corn as this state. And this particular bill is an excellent way for us to support a critical part of our economy. There are thousands of jobs in this state. I think as opponents of this bill have talked about how it's going to go to these large conglomerates, Archer Daniels Midland, or other companies are going to be the only ones that profit, I think the thousands of people in Nebraska who work at these ethanol plants would beg to differ. I think the thousands of farmers who sell their corn to be processed at these plants would beg to differ. This is a Nebraska bill. This particular product, ethanol, is one that helps our economy, it helps the Nebraska economy. And not just the economy, think about the quality of water, the quality of air, all the things that ethanol does for the environment. This is a bill that we, as Nebraskans, need to get behind. And it always is fun for me, as we go into the ethanol debate, I took a look at the book that we have here that lists all the senators and our occupations and that sort of thing. My friend, Senator Chambers, is Defender of the Downtrodden, as his occupation. I'd like to have that revised, if the Clerk would, to the Defender of Big Oil and Oil Interests. Now I'm not sure I can make that request on behalf of another senator, but if I can, certainly Defender of Big Oil may be more appropriate here. The only reason in this state we wouldn't support ethanol is because we own oil wells or we're trying to...maybe we've got an interest over in the oil cartel in the Mideast. Ethanol is a Nebraska product that works well in vehicles. We've talked about that exhaustively. Last year we talked on and on and on about how this works in any vehicle made in the United States, made around the world. Every major manufacturer says that ethanol is a product that works well. There's no dispute that it's better for water and air. It just is strange to me that we would even consider not passing this bill, but the good news is the opposition that was there to Senator Connealy's bill and those of us who supported Senator Connealy's bill, it's probably not going to be here. This particular fight against LB 536, I think it's going to be much more lonely for the opponents. There's only a couple, three in the body who oppose it. Now I'm not saying they can't take it